



Regional Service Council Minutes Region # 9

Meeting Date: 1/31/07
Meeting Location: Hendricks County Dept. of Child Services
6781 E US Hwy. 36, Avon, IN 46123

Council Members Present:

Sally Berish, For Judge David, and Kandi Killan, Barbara South, Steve Vaughn, Sally Wheat, Tim Miller, Harmony Gist, Char Burkett-Sims,

Guests Present:

Kamilla Aeschliman – Boone County Director, Andrea Goodwin – Hendricks County Director, Pam Turner - Putnam County Youth Development and Community Youth Services Bureau, Michael Scime - Montgomery County Youth Services Bureau, Norma Stewart -White's Residential and Family, Lisa Plewa-Children's Bureau Community and Community Partners for Child Safety, Angela Floyd- Children's Bureau and Community Partners for Child Safety, , Rebecca Kirkham - DCS Clinical Consultant, Robin Cruz - Wernle Children's Home in Wayne Co., Kevin Roach - Youth Connections in Morgan Co., Amy Moore - Systems of Care Coordinator for Morgan,Co.

Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 9:00 AM

Survey Results from the Evaluation of Regional Services Council Meetings:

- Ratings for all but one section of the survey resulted in a score of 4 or better on a 5 point scale. In the remaining area 3 of the 5 questions were rated from 3.63 to 3.75. The scores, although above average, indicated that sometimes the meetings didn't produce action steps, the action steps were not always clear and that there was not always follow-up.
- The ratings resulted in a question of how the meeting could be facilitated more effectively. One member offered the possibility that the purpose of the RSC might not be clear to all members. Char clarified purpose and asked if there are any ideas on how to make the meetings more effective. Receiving none, Char encouraged members to provide ideas at any time.

Regional Strategic Plan

- The purpose of the strategic plan will be to establish the practice outcomes on which Region 9 Counties will focus to improve the delivery of services. The planning process will evaluate how we are doing today and what is needed to be more effective in the delivery of services tomorrow.
- The Department of Child Services has developed a list of measures that will serve to help us establish the effectiveness of child welfare practice called Practice Indicators. Copies of the Practice Indicators were distributed.

- To date there have been process planning session during the Region's Management meeting and a focus group of Family Case Managers (FCM) has been conducted. The FCM focus group was comprised of 2 FCMs from each County.
- A focus group of Clerical staff will also be conducted on 3-5-07.
- A draft for the strategic plan is due by 5-31-07. This draft will be shared with the Regional Services Council before it is sent to Central Office.
- Data will be shared with the RSC and analyze trends between counties of region 9 after a 3-6 month period to enable us to identify which practice indicators are working and what is not working.

Community Partners for Child Safety:

- Mark Fairchild, LSW, has been hired to head up the Program. He will start on Feb.19th.
- As of this date, there are 2 active cases and need more referrals.
- It has been determined that screened out Abuse and Neglect Reports and Information and Referral Reports can be sent by DCS without this being considered a breach of confidentiality.
- The next Steering Committee Meeting is scheduled for February 21 @10:00 AM at the Hendricks Power and Light Building.
- Referrals can be faxed or mailed to Angela's attention. The phone numbers for Angela are 317- 745-6496 or 1-866-431-4451. The fax number is 317-745-6502

Pilot Update:

Practice Model

- Child and Family Teams Meetings are working well.
- All but 4-5 from the entire region have been trained as CFTM Facilitators.
- 9 more FCMS have been hired in the region and more are coming in April
- Retaining staff has been an issue - working on ways to resolve this issue

Qualitative Services Review:

- Region 9 is also piloting the Qualitative Service Review Process. This process looks at the quality of the practice we are performing by interviewing the worker, family members and professionals who are working with the family.
- The focus of this review is to improve service delivery.
- The Review will take place March 12-16.

Funding Proposal from Boone County:

- Funding request of \$1500 was proposed to help support a small portion of the costs associated with the 9th Annual Boone County Community In-Service.
- There will be a variety of speakers with an overall focus on child safety. Presentations will be made regarding safety in schools, strength based interventions, bullying, Autism, and NAMI. Also there will be a presentation by the kids from Boone Schools. Register at www.communityinservice.com-website includes agenda, biography of speakers, and where to register.

- The focus of the in-service is child safety and the purpose of the in-service is community education which would qualify as an intervention strategy for primary or secondary prevention.
- A unanimous vote was made to approve funding for this event

Miscellaneous:

- Sally Berish, Boone County Court Commissioner wanted to share that her recent experience with DCS staff attorney, Scott Cleveland, was very positive. She indicated that she was impressed by the skill and experience he exhibited in her courtroom.

Meeting adjourned at 10:12 am.

Next meeting scheduled for 2-28-07 at 9:00 a.m. (Hendricks County DFC)